

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 OMB-01

NIC-01 RSR-01 /129 W

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R 151100 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1303

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

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CINCLANT

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, NL

SUBJECT: NEW GOVERNMENT TO PRESENT " GOVERNMENT STATEMENT" MAY
28

1. SUMMARY: NEW DEN UYL GOVT WILL PRESENT REGERINGSVERKLARING
MAY 28. LIBERAL LEADER WIEGEL SAYS HE WILL NOT INTRODUCE NO
CONFIDENCE VOTE AT THIS TIME. FORMER PM BIESHEUVEL HAS
DECLARED HE IS LEAVING POLITICS PERMANENTLY BUT SOME OF HIS
ARP COLLEAGUES ARE URGING HIM TO RECONSIDER DECISION AND
RETURN TO CHAMBER TO LEAD " OPPOSTION." END SUMMARY

2. NEW DEN UYL GOVT HELD FIRST WORKIG CABIENT SESSION MAY 12.
OTHER SESSIONS SCHEDULED LATTER THIS WEEK. GOVERNMENT IS
PREPARING " REGERINGSVERKLARING" (STATEMENT IN WHICH IT WILL
DISCUSS THE BACKGGOUND OF ITS FORMATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION
FOR THE FUTURE). LIBERAL FLOOR LEADER WIEGEL HAS ALREADY BEGUN
HIS OPPOSTION. IN RECENT SPEECHES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF HOLLAND
AND IN INTERVIEWS WITH PRESS, THE YOUNG LIBERAL DECLARED HIS
INTENTION OF BRINGING DOWN THE NEW GOVT IN SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME.
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WIEGEL ADMITTED, HOWEVER, HE DOES NOT HAVE THE VOTES AT THE MOMENT AND MUST WAIT UNTIL CONFESSONAL PARTIES REALIZE THEIR MISTAKE AND WITHDRAW SUPPORT FOR WHAT HE TERMED " MOST LEFT WING GOVT SINCE THE WAR". THUS HE WILL NOT INTRODUCE NO CONFIDENCE VOTE ON MAY 28. HE FORESEES A THREE- ROUND BATTLE WITH DEN UYL GOVT. FIRST WILL BE MAY 28, THE SECOND WILL COME IN FALL WITH DEBATE ON THE QUEEN' S SPEECH, BUDGET, ETC, AND THE THIRD ROUND WILL BE THE PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS IN MARCH 1974. WIEGEL CONSIDERS THESE ELECTIONS WILL CONSTITUTE REFERENDUM ON DEN UYL GOVT.

3. FORMER PM BIESHEUVEL ANNOUNCED MAY12 HE WILL LEAVE POLITICS AND NOT RESUME ARP FLOOR LEADER' S POSITION IN SECOND CHAMBER. BIESHEUVEL, WHO SAID HE HAD NO FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTION TO COOPERATION WITH LABOR, MAINTAINED CONFESSONAL PARTIES HAD BEEN FORCED TO ACCEPT THE LEFT WING ELECTION PROGRAM WHICH HE HAD DECRIED DURING ELECTION. THEREFORE, HE FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO TREAT THE NEW GOVT IN THE " PROPER WAY." BIESHEUVEL DID NOT ALLUDE TO BITTER DIVISION IN ARP PARLIAMENTARY GROUP WHICH VOTED TO" TOLERATE" DEN UYL BY 8 TO 6 VOTE. IF BIESHEUVEL AS WELL AS FORMER MINISTER BOERTIEN RETURNED TO ARP PARLIMENTARY GROUP MAJORITY WOULD BE AGAINST GIVING DEN UYL CABINET A CHANCE.

4. COMMENT: BIESHEUVELS DECISION TO LEAVE POLITICAL LIFE HAS BEEN GREETED WITH CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM. SOME THINK HE IS COUNTING ON GROUNDSWELL FOR HIS RETURN DEVELOPING AND WILL BE BACK IN CHAMBER IN SEPTEMBER. STATE SECRETARY STEMERKINK TOLD EMBOFF BIESHEUVEL HAD TRIED TO " BLACKKMAIL" NEW GOVT INTO APPOINTING HIM VICE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF STATE BY THREATENING TO LEAD OPPOSITION TO DEN UYL GOVT IN CHAMBER. THOUGHT OF SUCH OPPOSITION GIVES NEW GOVT SERIOUS CAUSE FOR CONCERN. BIESHEUVEL AND WIEGEL WOULD BE FORMIDABLE OPPONENTS ESPECIALLY SINCE LABOR PARTY FLOOR LEADER (PROBABLY ED VAN THIIN) WOULD BE NEW AND PPR LEADER DE GAAY FORTMANIS A RELWTIVELY UNPREDICTABLE QUANTITY.
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